

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01
ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01
STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 AF-10 ARA-10 NEA-10
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 NSC-05 PA-01 /148 W
-----073442 011615Z /46

R 011118Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7923
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 07363

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN UN ECOSOC FR
SUBJECT: OVERVIEW MECHANISM - FRENCH REACTIONS TO
ORGANIZATION SESSION

REF: USUN 00606

1. LOIC HENNEKINNE, WHO IS COMMODITY POLICY
OFFICER IN QUAI'S ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

DIRECTORATE, AND WHO ACCOMPANIED HIS BOSS, BERNARD
BOCHET, TO OVERVIEW MECHANISM ORGANIZATION SESSION IN
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NEW YORK FEBRUARY 12-17, HAS GIVEN US HIS INITIAL
REACTIONS TO THOSE MEETINGS. HENNEKINNE IS THE TYPE OF
TECHNICIAN WHO, BY HIS OWN ADMISSION, IS OFTEN IMPATIENT
WITH THE DIFFICULT AND SENSITIVE TIMING AND PROCEDURAL
QUESTIONS WHICH ENVELOP MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS. HIS
COMMENTS SHOULD BE READ IN THIS LIGHT.

2. HENNEKINNE SAID THERE WAS UNQUESTIONABLY A GREATER DEGREE OF OUTWARD G-77 FLEXIBILITY AT THE OVERVIEW ORGANIZATION MEETING THAN AT ANY RECENT NORTH/SOUTH SESSION HE HAD ATTENDED. HE SHOWED DISAPPOINTMENT, HOWEVER, IN THE FACT THAT SO FEW LDC REPS HAD TAKEN TROUBLE TO COME TO NEW YORK FROM CAPITALS. HE CONTINUED THAT THE OPERATION WAS THUS GEARED TO AVOID SUBSTANCE, AND THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL WHETHER ANY REAL CHANGES WERE OCCURRING IN LDC ATTITUDES TOWARDS THEIR ECONOMIC DEALINGS WITH THE

INDUSTRIALIZED WORLD. ALTHOUGH HENNEKINNE WAS SKEPTICAL THAT THIS WOULD PROVE TO BE THE CASE, HE SAID THE ONLY REASONABLE COURSE NOW WAS TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON THE WORK PROGRAM. OF COURSE, THE WAY WAS NOW OPEN TO THE CONVOCAION OF SO MANY DIFFERENT SORTS OF MEETINGS THAT THERE WAS BOUND TO BE SLOW-GOING BEFORE ANY PERCEPTIBLE PROGRESS WAS REGISTERED.

3. HENNEKINNE SAID HE THOUGHT JAZAIRI PERFORMED CREDIBLY BUT HE ADDED THAT IN ABSENCE OF ANY FORMAL AGREEMENT WITH G-77, WE SHOULD NOT ASSUME THAT ROTATION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIP WILL BE AUTOMATIC.
HARTMAN

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